

## THE ARGUS.

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### The City of Tagaste.

To quite a number of folk the story of the city of Tagaste is familiar; the story of how its ambitions and its people faded into nothingness because its inhabitants sacrificed art for utility, dreams for solid activities.

Now these things, art and dreams, must have a proper weighing of utility and practicality. To get the proper medium for each it is often most necessary to call in an alchemist. Like an ill man who knows something is wrong with his internal system, but cannot administer a cure, we cannot be both patient and physician. A sick city is like unto a sick man. The best treatment obtainable is none too good.

If the new-life industrial, commercial and civic organization does no other one thing of the many good things it has suggested, it should make herculean effort to put across the project of bringing to Rock Island the city planning expert, John F. Nolan, and his corps of assistants. These men would come to our city with eyes focused upon our defects and our assets. Having no more grown citizens of locality and association to handcap their better reasoning, they alone could use a pruning knife upon unsightly lines of civic disfigurement without giving offense that even the keenest home-grown criticism of this new life.

Rock Island's natural surroundings of water, tree and land locate provide a most engaging landscape. All we need to make up the most ideal of sought for city of the middle west in business, life and artistic setting is someone with courage enough to uproot warts excessiveness and already overgrown. This old must come from outside, and the Chamber of Commerce has its finger on the right medium for fetching us out of sluggishness into the beauty so long concealed.

As the Argus presented the matter editorially last night with regard to the improvement of the gateway of our city, the water front—so throughout the city are other unsightly features that retard our growth and turn the home-seeker to better pastures for either.

And thus finally in the city of Tagaste. "They planted trees, and forests grew; the birds came back and made the boughs动荡 with their songs of love. The seawe was used to fertilize the land instead of to pollute the rivers, and fishes played hide and seek in the bright waters, and as ways had been found to consume the earth instead of liberating it in a cloud of soot, the sun's rays tell in golden beams, carrying health and happiness. And the people found that happiness and reasonable content followed a just and proper exercise of a city's facilities. They further discovered that man had a triple nature, physical, mental and spiritual; they further found that the exercise of the spiritual or emotional nature, through music or the contemplation of beauty, the loveliness of surroundings, was a necessity as much as food and drink. Beautiful sounds, beautiful colors, beautiful proportions, beautiful thoughts—how our souls hunger for them!"

### No Covering Up of News.

Fears that the American public was to be held in the dark as to misadventures among the land and water forces engaged in the war have been dispelled by statements issued by the war and navy departments. Nothing will be suppressed except those occurrences whose revealment might prove advantageous to the enemy. The government wants the people to place confidence in the pledge that they will receive the news as it transpires with full reservation that are generally recognized as expedient in the conduct of modern warfare, when the enemy, with his wide structure of espionage, is ever on the alert to absorb and communicate to him native armis information whose possession might prove disastrous to the side from which it was obtained.

Secretary Baker is shoving the plan of issuing weekly summaries of the war activities of the United States. He says he will go just as far as the military advisers, and the government deem it wise toward telling the public of what is in progress. Information of every sort reaching the department will be scrutinized for publishable matter, and the impression is conveyed that the statements will not be confined exclusively to past actions, but probably will contain forecasts, wherever permissible. When American troops get into action in France, daily statements will be issued founded upon reports from General Pershing. In this the American war department will be following the British custom, which appears to have proved generally satisfactory, although some features of the English censorship have aroused bitter condemnation from the public, and there have been material modifications since the beginning of the war because of this opposition, which was led by some of the leading newspapers.

However, it is not believed that the American public will have occasion to criticise our war and navy departments on the question of news. There may be intervals of a week or longer when nothing of an exciting nature will appear. At such periods Secretary Baker urges the people to assume the position that no news is good news, for that will in fact be the true situation, he asserts. He anticipates there will be a constant stream of wild reports of disasters on land and sea. We already have had a few samples. These might be originated at various sources. For instance, it wouldn't be beyond the

German government to set in motion in this country, to distress and alarm the people, rumors of reverses to the army and navy. It is to guard against such groundless announcements that the precautions referred to are being taken at Washington. We are asked to trust implicitly in the pledge of the capital, through its department secretaries, to keep as posted the public will want to know what is going on, no matter how discouraging the returns, and they will not be denied the information they are entitled to have.

Other rumors hurtful to the governmental war preparations have been put in circulation. One of these has to do with the arms and supplies. It was said that the government was buying a certain quantity. This is erroneous. There is no shortage of rifles for the American forces, although there may be some delay in equipping all men of the National army with the appropriate firearms to use in training. The forces sent abroad will carry an average of at least two rifles per man as an adequate protection against loss and wear and tear. So we should place no credence in every report that do not bear the mark of official authoritativeness, especially while the war is in progress, because we already know some of the tricks of the enemy in attempting to mislead and dishearten the American people in their task. Trust your government to be honest with you in the crisis through which the nation is passing.

### Picking Right Men.

Those of opposing political affiliations who have sought to capitalize, for future campaign ammunition, acts of the president since the rush that has crowded him because of his ramified war responsibilities, are having little success. It is unlikely that the president has experienced disappointment of some of his individual expectations in the food and raw problems of the war, but the two noted having received an immediate check on their adjustment immediately apparent.

For his food administrator the president selected Herbert C. Hoover, a young man with comparatively no political following in this country, although he had gathered it since he entered upon his great work at the capitol. Hoover never has claimed popularity with any one party. It is believed that he is a free lance politically. He comes from the corn fields of Iowa. For years he was engaged in engineering in Europe. When Belgium was devastated and America decided to feed the natives there Hoover was placed in charge of the distribution. The record he scored is familiar to the readers of American newspapers. When the United States decided to have a food administrator only one man was thought of in connection with the post. He was Hoover. He is now food administrator. And he is getting results.

Neither did the president think of politics when he looked about for a man to fill the job of coal controller. He went into the ranks of the Republican party for his candidate. He selected Harry A. Garfield, a son of a former president of the United States. Garfield is chairman of the wheat administration committee, but a non-effective committee, stabilizing the price of that grain. When he completes his work as head of the wheat committee Sept. 1 he will step into the office of coal controller. He will make good in the latter place as he has as head of the wheat committee. In 1912 Garfield was one of the chiefs of the Progressive movement, standing with Roosevelt and Perkins in the war to dismember the Republican party. But he returned to the fold of his earlier home last year. Garfield has played conspicuous roles in both the Progressive and Republican parties, but his political associations did not blind the president to his desirability as a supporter and helper when the nation was wanting men of caliber and capacity measuring up to the requirements of the exacting positions that were to be filled.

President Wilson has searched the nation for the men best qualified. His decisions have been based wholly upon ability to prosecute official assignments. That is why the American people will congratulate Mr. Wilson in selecting his own controller. Both are fit for the job. Both are types of citizens who inspire confidence. We may expect some excellent team work from Hoover and Garfield.

Senator Lewis of Illinois is authority for the declaration that there is in the United States treasury department a published proof of \$200,000,000 swindled out of the government by perfidy, fraud, deception and different forms of personal and commercial bribery under the income tax returns. It is a flagrant violation of wealth permitted to go unpunished. This is responsible for much of the social unrest in this country. The individuals to whom the Illinois senator refers should be exposed, made to pay up what they owe, and where there is no excuse, warranting punishments they should be enforced.

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You can't always tell about that born creature that calls at your kitchen door begging for a cup of coffee and a bite on a chilly morning. He is not in every case the impostor you believe him to be. Thirty years ago a girl employed at an Indiana farm house fed a tramp over the protests of her employer. The other day she came into possession of a fortune of \$87,000 willed her by Marshall McMurran of Evansville. She is now Mrs. Mattie Hannum of Vincennes.

Some men married to escape army service, but Chicago furnishes an ex-

## HE CANNOT GET AWAY WITH IT — THE WORLD WILL MAKE HIM PAY



From Columbus Dispatch.

caption After he had repeatedly promised to marry a certain girl, he decided the wiser thing for him to do would be to go into the service and forget her. Perhaps he succeeded in doing this, but she refused to forget him. So when he returns from the war he will have a \$10,000 heart balm suit to do.

German submerges have sunk 81 British ships in 28 weeks. A startling total if the recuperative powers of the English shipbuilding yards were not understood. Lloyd George says

the Germans can't land a knockout in England with the submarine. In the meantime England is delivering the blows that eventually will compel Germany to take the count.

Tomorrow is Rock Island day at the Joslin fair. You ought to make an effort to get away and spend the day among your friends in the upper end of the county. You will regret the experience. The Joslin fair is one of the finest given in the state. You will find much to interest and entertain you in a day spent there.

## The Day in Davenport

To Appoint Caretaker.—A caretaker will be appointed for the new armory on North Brady street—the deserted home of Batteries B and D. John Held made this statement yesterday, saying the buildings would be thoroughly cleaned and overhauled. Mr. Held and Colonel Compton spent several hours at the new armory yesterday. Several matters of importance were decided upon, among them being the appointment of caretaker. While the caretaker has not been selected yet it is believed the matter will be settled in a short while.

Ship Heavily of Onions.—Growers in Pleasant Valley and vicinity are shipping, for an average, eight carloads of onions a day to points all over the country. The yield this year is one of the largest in the history of this region. For the past two weeks farmers around Pleasant Valley have been shipping hundreds of bushels and have not completed the shipment of their yield yet. It will take at least two weeks before the growers will be able to clean up their output. The onions for next year are to be raised in the same four years. The heavy rains

earlier spring have delayed the crop. For the past two years the millions of bushels have suffered a great deal but this year growers have sold out completely for the disease onion blight has been greatly handicapped all season by the great scarcity of men labor. From the time the shipments first began growers have been able to supply only small lots for a long time.

Eggers to Enter Plea.—William Eggars, arrested by the sheriff and state agents following a raid upon his place at Third and Marquette streets on Saturday, will waive preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace Phil Daum and plead guilty in district court to a charge of insinuating a liquor nuisance. This information was given by County Attorney Henry H. Jenkins by Eggars' attorney. Eggars is at liberty on \$800 bail.

Is Fate to Blame for This?—Fates operating under the guise of the draft lottery, played Henry Reese, young Elbridge attorney, a mean trick. Reese's vacation plans are spoiled. His trip to Canada must be cut short. And on top of all this he has outstanding facts. He is called for military service in the first conscript army. Why? Because Harold Badeline Clemens, an

other Scott county farmer, was 31 years of age before the registration day, June 5, and didn't know it. Clemens was drawn in the first call under order No. 371. Reese was also drawn in the lottery, but his order number is 1,682. Yesterday the district exemption board at Des Moines notified the Scott county exemption board that Clemens had proven his age and directed that his registration card be removed from the files. In the place of Clemens' card the board was instructed to insert Reese's card in order that there might not be a gap in the serial number. This action brings Reese into the first call. Last week he visited the board and inquired for his order number. He explained that he was going to Canada and did not want to make any plans if there was any chance of his being called. The board looked up his number—1,682—and assured him he was not in immediate danger. Reese departed Friday for Canada. Yesterday the exemption board called him back to undergo the examinations for military service. It is fate, a jinx, or just because someone had a birthday?

Thought Woman a Newsboy.—M. V. Harmon took too many drinks and in his travels around the streets, accosted a woman and wanted to buy a newspaper she was reading. The woman notified the police and Harmon was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct. In police court Harmon pleaded guilty to the charge and was given a fine of \$1 and costs. In default of payment he was sentenced to jail for five days.

Couple United.—After six months of separation, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Head are now united in Russia, according to a letter received by L. J. Yaggy from Mr. Head, secretary of the Davenport Y. M. C. A., who went to that faraway country some time ago to take up y. M. C. A. work in connection with the war. The letter was mailed in Petrograd July 9 and has just reached Davenport.

Marriage Licenses.—Edward S. Wehr, Davenport, and Marie A. O'Brien, Davenport, and Max J. Conick, Davenport, and Mary L. Ryan, Davenport; Henry Arp, Davenport, and Ruth E. Beck, Moline; Roseme M. Bourquin, Davenport, and Eleanor Stricker, Harris, Iowa; Glen Schrader, Harper, Iowa, and Anna Belle Edwards, Davenport.

Cox Pleads Not Guilty.—Objecting to what he termed an "unwarranted procedure," J. Allen Cox, held on a first degree murder charge in connection with the slaying of Policeman Emil Speth in the Hotel Hess in January last, entered a formal plea of not guilty when arraigned before Judge F. D. Letts in the Scott county district court yesterday. He refused to allow the court to appoint an attorney, stating that he would conduct his own defense, for the present at least. He requested the court to issue an order on the sheriff permitting him to file papers. This request was not granted. Although displaying considerable nervousness, Cox appeared to be in improved health. His shoulder, shattered by a bullet, from the dying policeman's revolver, is still bandaged and he carries his right arm in a sling. The last time Cox was brought into court was in March to challenge the grand jury. At that time he was carried on a stretcher and showed every indication of being weak and suffering from his wounds. Cox grumbled considerably over the formal arraignment and was very insistent on the court issuing the order to the sheriff. He said he had a right to defend himself and should be given every opportunity. Judge Letts explained that written arguments were not customary in cases of this nature and assured Cox that he would be granted every opportunity to prove his innocence.

Bites By Bugs.

Can you suggest some simple remedies for bites from mosquitoes, bees and other insects? (L. E. Y.)

Answer.—A few drops of ammonia in half a cupful of water, kept bound over the nose in muslin or gauze. Bath with water containing two tablespoonsfuls of soda (balsarous) in a pint. Apply spirit of camphor. For general itching apply calamine lotion, containing 1 per cent of camphor.

Questions and Answers.

Sixth Paralysis Victim.—Gilbert Ransom, 2½ years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard G. Ransom of 721 Western avenue, is the latest child to develop infantile paralysis according to city board of health reports. This is the sixth case of the dreaded disease within a week, two of those stricken have died, and one is well on the road to recovery. The others are hovering between life and death and still in the grip of the plague.

Chords and Discords.

## CHORDS AND DISCORDS

A CHICAGOAN complains to the police about the squirrel nuisance in his neighborhood. There are a lot of them in Rock Island, too, but they haven't yet grown as bothersome as we have had to put the coppers on their trails.

THE more or less respected dove of peace appears to be suffering with an attack of the old-fashioned pip. The only cure for the pip is pep. And there hasn't been enough of that ingredient in any of the recent peace overtures.

STYLE mentors declare that women will have to wear shorter skirts next year. We'll wager that a lot of them haven't the nerve; then there are others that don't propose to subject themselves to the embarrassment of odious contrasts. Neither would you.

THE girl whose beauty is not marred by affecting oversize would look good in little or nothing of anything.

OUR notion of a thorough optimist is a girl who can board a crowded street car after she has eaten her full of green onions.

IRON creases are said to have grown so common in kaiserland that they are used by small boys as substitutes for the pfennig in shooting at cracks in the sidewalks.

STRIKE up the 'man of war—but play it sparingly.'

THE Berlin government is requisitioning the organ pipes of the empire. Tuning up for the recessional?

WHEN you are next asked to explain why we are at war with Germany you might refer your interrogator to the Chinese laundryman.

WHEN the crewmen, through some foolhardy effort to display Prussian invincibility to the enemy, sacrifice the lives of a few thousand boys, Berlin officially informs the world that "there is nothing important to report." That's what military Germany thinks of those who are fighting its hopeless battle.

YES. Alas! one does grow weary of listening to and reading so much about war. Perhaps it would cheer you along to know that Nora Kidder is supervising deputy in Isabel that he fell entirely under her care. He was delayed by a snowstorm that came early in the winter, and the snow was likely to remain on the ground for many months. Isabel told her friend that she regretted this because it covered a little grotto near the house where in fair weather she used to go and sit or read. He replied that he was only enjoyed by contrast and the longer she was kept out of her grotto the happier she would be to get into it again.

When it ceased to snow the stranger took his departure. Before going he said to her: "You will receive a dowry which will entitle you to marry the man you love."

Isabel looked at him in astonishment and asked him when the dowry would come to her.

"When the sun is warm enough to melt the snow," was the reply.

This was said with a melancholy spirit. The man was ill and possibly was influenced by his illness. He remained a month in Harrison's cabin, ministered to by Mrs. Harrison and Isabel. But he showed such interest in Isabel that he fell entirely under her care. He was delayed by a snowstorm that came early in the winter, and the snow was likely to remain on the ground for many months. Isabel told her friend that she regretted this because it covered a little grotto near the house where in fair weather she used to go and sit or read. He replied that he was only enjoyed by contrast and the longer she was kept out of her grotto the happier she would be to get into it again.

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That was a long winter, and the father found prospecting difficult on account of the deep snow. The family pinned for the spring to come to release them from their cabin and enable them to enjoy the out-of-door life, so inviting in the mountains.

At last there came a series of warm days, and the snow began to melt and run down the gulches in torrents. It was so thick that it required time to leave bare any of the soil or rocks.